

REMARKS

Claims 14, 16-22, 25, 27-34 remain pending in this application. Claims 15, 23, 24, and 26 have been canceled by this amendment. Each of the pending claims is believed to define an invention that is novel and unobvious over the cited references. Favorable reconsideration of this case is respectfully requested.

Regarding the objection to the drawings, the specification has been amended to use the reference characters 130 and 142 for single parts. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amendments to the drawings are not required and that the objection be withdrawn.

Claims 14, 18, 19, 23, 24, 35 and 36 have been objected to due to various informalities. The claims have been canceled and amended in order to correct the informalities noted by the Examiner. Therefore, the withdrawal of the objection to these claims is respectfully requested.

Embodiments of the present invention relate to a portable rechargeable electric lantern 102. The lantern comprises a first housing, such as base 108. As shown in Figure 5 of the present application, a rear of the base 108 may define a cavity 140 containing an AC connector 142. An AC adapter 144 includes AC to DC converter circuitry that is substantially enclosed by a second housing. The second housing is then substantially enclosed by the base 108. Thus the AC to DC converter circuitry is enclosed within two housings, the base 108 and the second housing for the AC adapter. Incorporating the AC to DC converter circuitry within the second housing which is then arranged within the base 108 allows the lantern to meet applicable standards due to the construction of the second housing without the entire base 108 also being required to meet the standards.

Claims 14-17, 23-27, 34 and 36 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Number 2,628,339 to Werner. Werner does not anticipate the present invention as it does not disclose, among other things, an AC to DC converter that is disposed within a second housing, which is then substantially enclosed by a first housing as is recited by the present claims.

Both independent claims 14 and 25 have been amended to recite that a light comprises a first housing defining a cavity therein. An AC to DC converter is disposed within a second housing. The second housing is substantially enclosed within the first housing. For example, the AC to DC converter may be a wall cube enclosing circuitry therein. The wall cube is then arranged with the lantern housing. Thus, the AC to DC converter circuitry is substantially enclosed by two housings.

In contrast, Werner, does not disclose, teach or suggest AC to DC converter circuitry that is substantially enclosed by two housings. The Office Action equates transformer 80 to the AC to DC converter circuitry. However, the transformer 80 is only a part of the circuitry in Werner which is used to convert AC to DC. Transformer 80 is used to reduce the AC voltage and rectifier 81 is used to convert the reduced AC voltage to DC voltage, please see column 4, lines 55-64. The transformer 80 and the rectifier 81 are individual circuit components that are part of the AC to DC converter circuitry. A charging container 75 is provide to enclose the transformer 80 and the rectifier 81. The charging container 75 is not closed within any other housing. Accordingly, the AC to DC converter circuitry in Werner, transformer 80 and rectifier 81, are only enclosed within a single housing, charging container 75. Charging container 75 is then arranged adjacent to container 11 that houses the rechargeable power supply. It can be plainly seen in Figure 1 of Werner that charging container 75 is not arranged within container 11. Accordingly, Werner does not disclose or suggest a AC to DC convert circuitry disposed within a second housing which is then substantially enclosed by a first housing as is recited in the rejected claims.

In view of the above, it is clear that the cited references do not teach each and every element recited in the rejected as is required by 35 U.S.C. 102(b). Accordingly, the withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 18, 19, 28 and 29 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Werner. Each of these claims depend directly or indirectly from independent claims 14 and 25 and would be patentable over Werner for at least the reasons discussed above.

Claims 20-22, 30, 33 and 34 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Werner in view of U.S. Patent Number 6,260,985 to Zeller.

Claims 20-22, 30, 33 and 34 depend directly or indirectly from independent claims 14 and 25 and would be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above regarding those claims. Zeller does not supplement Werner to teach or suggest the claim elements missing from Werner. Therefore, the withdrawal from the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 30-32 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Werner in view of Zeller further in view of U.S. Patent Number 6,789,924 to Yuen.

Claims 31 and 32 depend directly or indirectly from independent claim 25 and would be patentable over Werner and Zeller for at least the reasons discussed above regarding independent claim 25. Yuen does not supplement Werner and Zeller to teach or suggest the claim elements missing from Werner and Zeller. Therefore, the withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are now in allowable form and early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner is of the opinion that the prosecution of this application would be advanced by a personal interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone undersigned counsel to arrange for such an interview.

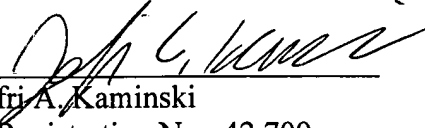
Application No.: 10/731,113

Docket No.: 32405-199591

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee necessitated by this Amendment to our Deposit Account No. 220-0261.

Dated: December 7, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Jeffri A. Kaminski

Registration No.: 42,709

VENABLE LLP

P.O. Box 34385

Washington, DC 20043-9998

(202) 344-4000

(202) 344-8300 (Fax)

Attorney/Agent For Applicant